## What is claimed is:

5

10

15

20

1. A method for decontaminating the contents of a mailbag comprising the steps of:

sealing said mailbag so as to isolate the interior contents of said mailbag; removing air from the interior of said mailbag; and injecting a decontaminating material into the interior of said mailbag.

- The method for decontaminating the contents of a mailbag according to claim
   further comprising the step of testing the interior environment of the mailbag for the presence of hazardous material.
- 3. The method for decontaminating the contents of a mailbag according to claim
  1 further comprising the step of waiting for a period sufficient to kill
  hazardous microbes present within said mailbag.
- 4. The method for decontaminating the contents of a mailbag according to claim
  1 further comprising the step of withdrawing said decontaminating material
  from the interior of said mailbag.

5. The method for decontaminating the contents of a mailbag according to claim
1 further comprising the step of drawing air from the interior of said mailbag
across a filter.